

Remarks

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The instant Office Action dated October 19, 2007, indicated the following rejections: claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112(2); and claims 1, 5 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over Thompson *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,873,211). The Office Action also notes that claim 4 is allowed, and that claims 2-3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In response to the § 112(2) rejection of claim 6, Applicant has amended claim 6 to provide explicit antecedent basis for the identified claim terms. Applicant submits that these amendments render the rejection of claim 6 moot. Thus, Applicant requests that the § 112(2) rejection of claim 6 be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully traverses the § 102(a) rejection of claims 1, 5 and 7-9 because the Thompson reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,873,211) is not prior art to the claimed invention. The filing date of the Thompson reference is September 10, 2003 whereas Applicant's priority date is December 19, 2002 (via EP 02080377.1). Thus, the Thompson reference does not qualify as prior art under § 102(a) or § 102(e). Accordingly, the § 102(a) rejection of claims 1, 5 and 7-9 is improper and Applicant requests that it be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks above, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the agent overseeing the application file, Peter Zawilski, of NXP Corporation at (408) 474-9063 (or the undersigned).

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